provide viable first referral mechanisms *i.e.* at the level of CHCs, Sub-divisional hospitals and district hospitals, to improve the health status of poor and underserved by reducing mortality, morbidity and disability and to improve efficiency in allocation and use of health resources through policy reform and institutional development.

Resolution against two-child norm

*299. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the reconstituted National Commission on Population was held recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there was a resolution against implementation of two-child norm in the country; and

(c) if so, the reasons for implementing two-child norm by Government?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, the first meeting of the reconstituted National Commission on Population was held on 23rd July, 2005, under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister. Though the issue of two child norm was discussed in the meeting, no resolution regarding implementation of the two-child norm in the country was adopted by the Commission. In fact, the National Population Policy, 2000, affirms the commitment of Government towards voluntary and informed choice and consent of citizens while availing reproductive health care services and continuation of target free approach in administering family planning services. The family welfare programme in India is purely voluntary in nature, which enables couples to decide the size of their family and adopt the family planning methods, best suited to them, according to their choice, without any coersion.

Procurement in NER

*300. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state: